

PATENT

Serial No. 10/535,753

Amendment in Reply to Office Action mailed on August 31, 2007

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed August 31, 2007, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 5-7 and 18-32 remain in this application, where claims 3-4 and 8-17 are canceled without prejudice and claims 25-32 are added.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the information disclosure statement (IDS) filed May 19, 2005 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) for not supplying a copies of Japanese Patent Abstracts. In response legible copies of JP2002-014359 (Patent Abstract of Japan Vol. 2002, No. 05, 03-May-2002) and JP10-268790 (Patent Abstract of Japan Vol. 1999, No. 01, 29-

Jan-1999) are enclosed. Accordingly, consideration of JP2002-014359 and JP10-268790 is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-7, 18-20 and 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,654,071 (Chen). Claims 4 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Chen in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,592,623 (Yamamoto). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2, 5-7 and 18-32 are patentable over Chen and Yamamoto for at least the following reasons.

Chen is directed to a flexible panel where layers are adhered to each other. Yamamoto is directed to polarizing plate where a surface is stretched to provide desired polarizing properties, and the stretched surface is adhered to another surface. In both Chen and Yamamoto, the stretching or the adhering does not provide a curved shape. Rather, any curved shape is provided by applying a desired bending force to a flexible membrane.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 18 and 28, amongst other patentable elements, recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

adhering the non-precurved first film to the curved surface in such a way that the two films are held in a curved shape by means of the adhering act between the two films.

These features are nowhere taught or suggested in Chen, Yamamoto, and combination thereof. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 18 and 28 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 5-7, 19-27 and 29-32 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1, 18 and 28.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

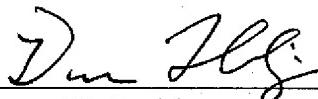
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In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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November 20, 2007

Enclosure: New Abstract
JP2002-014359 (Patent Abstract of Japan Vol. 2002, No. 05, 03-May-2002)
JP10-268790 (Patent Abstract of Japan Vol. 1999, No. 01, 29-Jan-1999)

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